

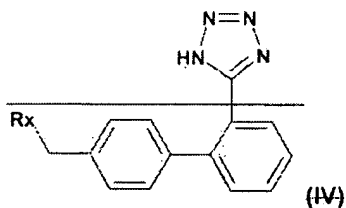
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

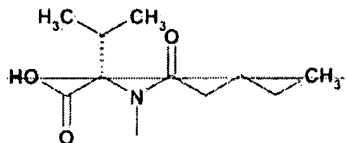
**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (cancelled)

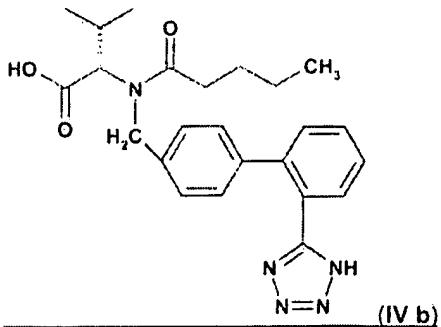
Claim 2 (currently amended): A process according to claim 4 for the manufacture of a compound of formula (IV); (IV b)



or a tautomeric form thereof, wherein Rx is



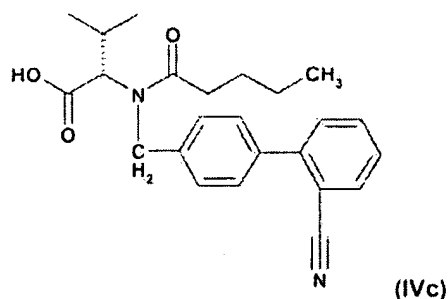
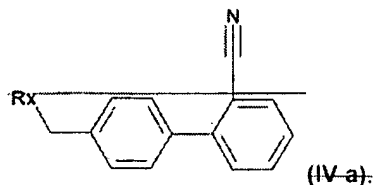
or a salt thereof;



or a tautomer or a salt thereof,

characterized by

(i) reacting a compound of formula (IV-a) (IV c)



or an ester thereof, wherein Rx has the meanings as given above, with a an azide compound of formula (R<sub>1</sub>)(R<sub>2</sub>)M-N<sub>3</sub> (II b), wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, independently of one another, have the meanings as defined above, and isolating the resulting compound of formula (IV);

represent an organic residue selected from the group consisting of an aliphatic residue, an alicyclic residue, a heteroalicyclic residue; an alicyclic-aliphatic residue; a heteroalicyclic-aliphatic residue; a carbocyclic and a heterocyclic aromatic residue; an araliphatic residue or an heteroaraliphatic residue, each residue, independently of another; and M is boron or aluminium;

wherein,

- an aliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkynyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, substituted NH, O, or S;

- an alicyclic residue is mono-, bi- or polycyclic, selected from the group consisting of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>cycloalkyl and C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkenyl;

- a heteroalicyclic residue is an alicyclic residue, wherein at least one carbon atom is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of NH, substituted NH, O, and S;

- an alicyclic-aliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkenyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>alkynyl that is substituted by C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>cycloalkyl or by C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>cycloalkenyl;

- a heteroalicyclic-aliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl each of which substituted by C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>cycloalkyl or by C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkenyl wherein one carbon atom of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkenyl, respectively, is replaced by NH, substituted NH, O, or S;

- a carbocyclic aromatic residue selected from the group consisting of monocyclic, bicyclic and polycyclic, or benzoannellated carbocyclic residue;

- a heterocyclic aromatic residue is 5- or 6-membered and monocyclic radical which has up to four identical or different hetero atoms, selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms, preferably one, two, three or four nitrogen atoms, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

- an araliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl each of which is substituted by phenyl or by naphthyl;

- an heteroaraliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl each of which is substituted by pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, furyl, thienyl or pyridyl; and

- substituted NH is NH which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl-alkanoyl, phenyl-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl;

and M is boron or aluminium; and

(ii) isolating the resulting compound of formula (IV b).

Claims 3-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A process according to claim [[3]] 2, wherein a compound of formula (R<sub>1</sub>)(R<sub>2</sub>)M-N<sub>3</sub> (II b) is used, wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, independently of one another, is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl; C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl; phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; phenyl-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkenyl, or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.

Claims 14-16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (new): A process according to any claim 2, wherein a compound of formula (R<sub>1</sub>)(R<sub>2</sub>)M-N<sub>3</sub> (II b) is used, wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>:

independently of one another, is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl or aryl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl.

Claim 18 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein a compound of formula (R<sub>1</sub>)(R<sub>2</sub>)M-N<sub>3</sub> (II b) is selected from the group consisting of: dimethyl aluminium azide, diethyl aluminium azide, diisopropyl aluminium azide, dipropyl aluminium azide, diisobutyl aluminium azide, dibutyl aluminium azide, dicyclohexyl aluminium azide, diethyl boron azide, diisopropyl boron azide, dipropyl boron azide, diisobutyl boron azide, dibutyl boron azide, dicyclohexyl boron azide, and diphenyl boron azide.

Claim 19 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein the compound of formula (R<sub>1</sub>)(R<sub>2</sub>)M-N<sub>3</sub> (II b), wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub>, independently of one another, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>alkenyl which is allyl or crotyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>-cycloalkyl which is cyclohexyl; phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl which is benzyl or 2-phenethyl; phenyl-C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkenyl which is cinnamyl, or C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl which is cyclopropylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl.

Claim 20 (new): A process according to claim 2 wherein the ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- the aliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub>-alkynyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, O, S or NH which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkanoyl, phenyl-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl; and
- the araliphatic residue is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkenyl or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkynyl each of which is substituted by phenyl or naphthyl.

Claim 21 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- an aliphatic residue is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, 2-propenyl, 2-butenyl, 3-butenyl or propargyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, O, S or NH which is substituted by C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, phenyl-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkyl- C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-alkanoyl, phenyl-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl; and
- an araliphatic residue is benzyl, 2-phenethyl or 2-phenyl-ethenyl.

Claim 22 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein the ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- an aliphatic residue is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, 2-propenyl, 2-butenyl, 3-butenyl or propargyl; and
- an araliphatic residue is benzyl, 2-phenethyl or 2-phenyl-ethenyl.

Claim 23 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>alkyl ester or a benzyl ester thereof.

Claim 24 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is a benzyl ester thereof.